

REMARKS

The courtesy afforded the applicants' representative by Examiner Horton at the interview on October 27, 2003 is acknowledged with thanks. At the interview, applicants' representative explained the structure of the greenhouse roof being claimed and how the claims read on the embodiments of Figures 1 and 2. The Examiner pointed out that further clarification was necessary and it was generally agreed, after discussing the prior art, that separate sets of claims directed to the embodiments would be preferred. Examiner Horton explained that HART 3,143,194 might be relevant. It is noted that HART has not yet been made of record, and it is hereby requested that this reference be included in a new Form 892.

Four sets of claims have been added, with claims 17-25 being directed to the embodiment of Figure 4, claims 26-42 and 49 being directed to the embodiment of Figure 1, and claims 43-48 and 50 being directed to the embodiment of Figure 2. Consideration and allowance of all the new claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under §112, second paragraph, and have been replaced with new claims that are proper as to form. Note that element numbers have been included in the new claims only for ease of reference and not by way of limitation.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

With regard to claims 17-25, the applied references do not disclose a roof panel that includes plural pairs of roof subpanels, where the roof subpanels meet along a respective apex) that runs at a first angle, where the roof subpanels slope away from the apex at a second angle that remains constant along a length of the apex, where each of the roof subpanels includes a roof sheet and a base sheet that are separated from each other by a first non-zero distance, and where the roof sheet and the base sheet are parallel to each other and connected to each other with partitions.

With regard to claims 26-42 and 49, none of the references discloses that each of the roof surfaces includes plural pairs of roof panels in succession in the longitudinal direction, where the roof panels of each pair meet along a respective second apex that runs at the first angle from horizontal (this is the same angle as used to define the slope of the roof surfaces), where each of the roof panels lies at a second non-zero angle relative to horizontal, so that roof panels of one roof surface meet roof panels of an adjoining roof surface adjacent to the first apex along two edges that slope away from the peak at the second angle relative to horizontal.

ZETLIN 3,591,991 is probably the closest art (it discloses that each roof surface includes plural pairs of roof panels in succession in the longitudinal direction that meet at a second apex), but this reference does not disclose that the second apex runs at the same first angle from horizontal that is used to define the slope of the roof surfaces. The second apex of ZETLIN runs at a different angle.

KIRSCHEN 4,320,603 does not disclose that the roof panels of one roof surface meet roof panels of an adjoining roof surface adjacent to the first apex along two edges that slope away from the peak at the second angle (γ) relative to horizontal. There is no peak in KIRSCHEN from which the edges slope away.

BUTLER 4,671,025 does not disclose that each of the roof surfaces includes plural pairs of roof panels in succession in the longitudinal direction, where the roof panels of each pair meet along a respective second apex that runs at the first angle from horizontal and extends in the longitudinal direction.

HART also has been carefully considered when drafting the new claims and it is believed that this reference is also distinguishable from the new claims because the reference does not disclose the claimed roof surfaces in succession in the transverse direction, where the roof surfaces of each pair meet adjacent to a respective first apex and extend from adjacent to a

respective base edge at a first non-zero angle from horizontal, where each the first apex and the base edge extend in the longitudinal direction, and where each roof surface includes plural pairs of roof panels in succession in the longitudinal direction, where the roof panels of each pair meet along a respective second apex that runs at the first angle from horizontal and extends from adjacent to a respective said base edge to a respective peak, where each of the roof panels lies at a second non-zero angle (γ) relative to horizontal, and where the roof panels of one roof surface meet the roof panels of an adjoining roof surface adjacent to the first apex along two edges that slope away from the peak at the second angle (γ) relative to horizontal.

With regard to claims 43-48 and 50, none of the references discloses the plural four-sided pyramids claimed.

Accordingly, the new claims avoid the art of record.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$172 for the two extra independent claims and \$252 for the 14 extra claims of any type added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

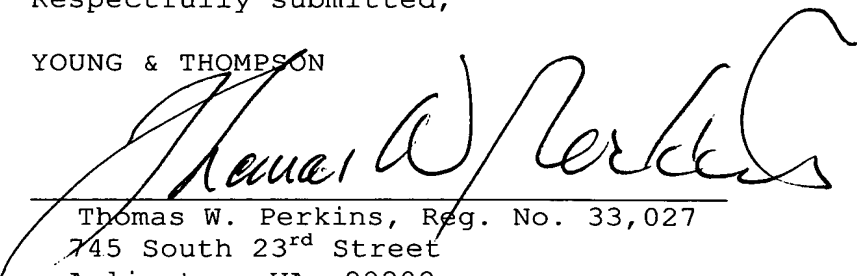


Application No. 10/049,854
Reply to Office Action of June 11, 2003
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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